

# **Burrillville**

## **Recreation Commission**

**RE: Minutes, May 12, 2008**

**Present: Cheri Hall, Director, Dave Marcotte, Kurt Schatz, Chair, Al Low, Al Gerew, Vice Chair,**

**L. Kevin McDonald, Alice Lavigne, Secretary, Juliette**

**Lopez-Recinos, Michael Karmozyn, Town Council Liaison**

**Absent: Debra Stockwell (Alternate Member)**

**Excused: None**

**Guests: Steve Rawson, Chair Conservation Commission, Prescott Chartier and Bill Goodwin, Burrillville Youth Football and Cheer.**

**Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Al Gerew, Vice Chair, at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.**

**Minutes of April 14, 2008 Regular Meeting were accepted. Motion to accept made by Dave Marcotte. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos . Motion passed 6-0.**

**Kurt Schatz, Chair arrived.**

### **Correspondence:**

**The Director received a letter of appreciation from the Visiting Nurse Association for the Spring Lake Beach season non-resident pass gift certificate for their annual fundraising event.**

### **Good & Welfare:**

**Al Low reported that the Burrillville Little League has been edging the Hauser Field fields at accost of \$1,800 to \$2,200 per field. The league collects and recycles cans to assist with field renovation costs but these costs for the Hauser fields would exhaust those funds. The Director reported the availability of \$1,000 from the current grounds supply budget line item to assist with the Hauser field renovations.**

**Dave Marcotte stated prior commission discussions took place where leagues would not be charged field use fees if they did any field maintenance. Al Low stated the agreement was for regular maintenance but not for this additional expense like edging at Hauser Field.**

**L. Kevin McDonald stated a letter of appreciation should be forwarded to the Burrillville Little League for their extra efforts to maintain the Hauser Field Complex.**

**Steve Rawson, Chair for the Conservation Commission, apologized**

for the lack of communication with Recreation Commission regarding the meeting held discussing the open-space/recreation bond proposal. As a supporter of town recreation projects in the past, the proposed bond would be utilized for both open-space and recreation purposes in the future. At the last meeting of the Conservation Commission and the Town Council, it was mentioned that there was \$500,000 from 1988 that was not utilized. Maybe these funds could be targeted for the land abutting the lodge. In the past, the Knights of Columbus Hall was also a possible future acquisition. The proposed bond issue for open-space/recreation will be on the Town Council agenda on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. The Burrillville Land Trust would not benefit from the bond monies, only the Conservation and Recreation Commission's would make any future decisions for the use of any bond monies. The Conservation Commission is asking for the right to bond in the future which will not affect the cap for this type of funding for the first year but it would in subsequent years it would if a land site is found. Other funding sources like grants would be sought as matching funds for any such land acquisitions.

The Director stated there is a possibility that the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will be offering a grant round in the fall for Open Space, Acquisition or Rehabilitation for large grants for \$250K for a \$500K project with land acquisition being only 25% matching funds required. A small grant would be up to \$150K maximum. The renovations to the Branch River tennis

**courts would qualify for one of these offerings.**

**Steve Rawson stated that the Conservation Commission's giving out of the seedlings at this year's Family Fair went well even though the venue changed to the Burrillville Middle School due to the weather.**

**The Director stated that at the recent conference attended, it was noted that the Conservation Commission, Planning Department and Recreation Commission all worked hand-in-hand and met quarterly to discuss issues and projects. This might be an asset for Burrillville.**

**Steve Rawson, Chair of the Conservation Commission, left the meeting.**

**Dave Marcotte made a motion to move the "Youth Football League" agenda item up from New Business. Seconded by L. Kevin McDonald. Motion passed 6-0.**

## **Youth Football League**

**Prescott Chartier, acting President of Burrillville Youth Football and Cheer, gave a presentation of the program being proposed. The program would be for ages 5 to 15 including five different levels. Mr. Chartier was approached by Bill Goodwin, President of the Blackstone Valley Youth Football and Cheer, a part of American League Football and American League Cheer, to begin a Burrillville**

league. The start-up has shown a tremendous interest. It has been difficult for Burrillville families to attend the abutting community's similar programs five nights per week due to travel time. An informational meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening at the Burrillville High School.

The Director reported communication with Burrillville School Department Facilities Manager Bob Richards regarding use of Eccleston Field for practices and games on Sundays on the new high school football field. Regionals are held at Bryant University for football and the Dunkin Donuts Center for Cheer. National championships are held in Florida. Muscoe Lighting has been contacted regarding possible light installation at the new high school football field with league assistance funding. The contact website is [www.burrillvilleyouthfootballandcheer.com](http://www.burrillvilleyouthfootballandcheer.com). Flyers are being distributed to all the Burrillville elementary schools. NYSCA Coaches Training and background checks will be a requirement for all coaches involved.

Bill Goodwin, President of the Blackstone Valley Youth Football and Cheer, gave background and further information about the American Football and Cheer Organization. A local set of By-Laws and Conference By-Laws and National Rules are followed. Burrillville Youth Football and Cheer was incorporated May 2nd and secondary insurance policy will be purchased late June, early July and will be effective the first day of practice. Dave Marcotte questioned if this is

just offered to Burrillville residents or to other communities also. Mr. Chartier stated this is a Burrillville program but will not turn away other town participants. A credit will be given if participants have already paid a registration fee to an abutting town's league and want to transfer to the new Burrillville league. A cap of \$170 per family has been established with grants and other sources are being sought to offset costs. The Director suggested eliminating the "Broncos" name from the title, even though the legal title is Burrillville Youth Football and Cheer. It was decided to change it to Burrillville "Patriots" Youth Football and Cheer. The website and logos will be changed to reflect the Patriots title. The logo will be changed slightly to avoid copyright issues. The registration contracts, medical release, and code of conduct forms were shared with the commission. A field clean-up policy will be followed. An existing building or storage building for concessions and storage is being sought.

Prescott Chartier and Bill Goodwin, Burrillville Patriots Youth Football and Cheer, left the meeting.

Background checks for Prescott Chartier and Bill Goodwin have been submitted by the Director.

**Old Business:**

**Sub-committee report-Ordinance**

The ordinance changes recommended will be presented to the Town

**Manager after the budget process is complete.**

**A motion to accept the ordinance changes was made by L. Kevin McDonald. Seconded by Dave Marcotte. Motion passed 6-0.**

### **Conservation Commission**

**Various members of the commission will be present at the May 14th Town Council meeting regarding the proposed Open-Space/Recreation bond issue.**

### **Doors Recreation Center**

**The double doors have been installed at the Recreation Center but a gap caused by an adjustment in the weather stripping has to be fixed. New hardware has to be purchased since the old hardware cannot be utilized.**

### **League Budgets/C.I.P.**

**Janice Kaplan contacted the Director regarding an increase request for the Burrillville Figure Skating Association appropriation due to higher ice time costs at the Levy Rink. Janice Kaplan will be on the agenda for next month's Recreation Commission meeting regarding these funding issues.**

**The Director will review the proposed budget funding for the programming line item.**

### **Scope of Work for Trail**

**The Director stated C.M.E., Beckman-Weremay and Gates, Leighton and Associates will be contacted regarding requests for proposals for the Trail. Three weeks for review and response will take place with review at the next commission meeting.**

### **Relay for Life**

**Nothing new to report at this time.**

### **Family Fair**

**This year's Family Fair went very well. Thirty-five people donated their hair for the Pantene Beautiful Lengths event with three hairdressers cutting and styling the hair.**

**A special thank you was extended to Recreation Commission members Alice Lavigne and Al Gerew for their assistance at the fair. Dave Marcotte was thanked for donating helium for the balloons.**

### **Spring Lake Beach**

**Sand and gravel has been delivered. Drainage issues are being addressed by the two maintenance people hired for the readying of the beach for the summer season. The recreation hall wood floors will be resurfaced on May 19th. The Spring Lake Beach and Burrillville Extended Care staff meeting will take place on May 21st. The new lifeguard chairs have been delivered with the new picnic tables on order. The Spring Lake Beach handouts to be distributed at the Blackstone Valley Visitors Center, in town, and at Spring Lake Beach were shared with the commission.**

## **Earth Day**

**Approximately sixty-two volunteers came out for this year's Earth Day event.**

## **Tennis Courts**

**A mini-grant was received from U.S.T.A. for new nets for the tennis courts. Dave Marcotte questioned how bad the condition of the Branch River Park courts are and, if necessary, should they be shut down. Dave Marcotte was asked to assist with temporary repairs for this year.**

## **Hauser-Men's Softball**

**After a meeting with the Town Manager and Police Department, the**

**Director was requested to send a letter to Burrillville Men's Softball requesting them to cease and desist drinking, urinating, and peeing out onto Howard Avenue or they would be denied availability to the Hauser Field complex. Dave Marcotte stated he has played softball up until last year at Hauser Field and to his knowledge there was no drinking and proof should have to be provided and if the police observe someone drinking, that person or people should be arrested or removed and not sanction the entire league. Rules by the Men's Softball League are in place to try to adhere to the town laws and regulations. Juliette Lopez-Recinos stated this behavior has been going on for years and action is necessary.**

**Juliette Lopez-Recinos questioned if there was any new information regarding the house being leased on the Spring Lake property. The Director reported this issue is in the hands of the Town Solicitor.**

### **New Business:**

#### **Spring Lake Play Equipment**

**The new play equipment being funded by Burrillville Extended Care for the Spring Lake Beach Facility is ready to be ordered and then installed by the end of June for the use of Burrillville Extended Care summer camp and general public other times.**

#### **Youth Football League**

**“See above”**

**The Bargain Buyer advertisement regarding summer programs being offered through the department and the Field Calendar update for June, July and August were shared with the commission.**

**L. Kevin McDonald questioned the progress of fundraising for the Summer Concert Series. The Director reported receipt of \$2,000 from TransCanada/Ocean State Power with \$1,000 for concerts, which is an increase from \$500, and \$1,000 for the upcoming road race. Pascoag Utility gave \$50 and the Holly Brizard Memorial Foundation for the Family Fair Puppet Show.**

**Meeting Adjourned: Motion made Al Low. Seconded by Al Gerew.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 9 2008 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859**

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